**Distance Learning Letter**

Dear Students and Parents,

We have come to a point in education that none of us thought we would every have to experience. As I walked into my classroom on Tuesday evening, tears filled my eyes with hoping, but not knowing if I will get to teach in this room again this year. I want you to know that each and every student has a special place in my heart and I want only the best! There are several ways that I hope to continue communication with you over the course of this distance learning experience.

1. ZOOM – I have created a Zoom account and my zoom number is 740-841-2081. I have two specific times scheduled that we can meet as a group if your child is able from 12:00-12:15 and 7:00-7:15. This time is just a time for us to see each other and say hi. I might read a story, but there will be NO formal curriculum teaching during this time. However, your child can ask questions if they have any on the assignments. I also will have recorded videos for reading, math, and language for students to view for teaching components to go with their assignments you can utilize. Once again these are not required, but there for your guidance through lessons.
2. Lesson plans – Each week, I will have a lesson plan for you to know what assignments are included in the packets. This will have a list of what is going to be graded and what can be used for extra practice. This first week I have SO many extra items in there as I had them run off and I didn’t know how much I truly should include this first week. I will be looking for feedback! I will have mini lesson’s available on Zoom for extensions.
3. Via Phone/E-mail – I will be available everyday checking my phone and email from 10-2. I am available MORE than that, but just know that is a time I will be frequently checking my phone and e-mail.
4. Campus Messenger – Feel free to reach out to me through campus messenger and I will also be sending out group messages through this service if I need to reach all of you at once.

Other important items:

1. Reading books – Please return these next week as this is the last week in this book and you will get a new one next week.
2. Bag books – Please keep bag books until March 30th and then I will send new ones.
3. Math Manipulatives – Please keep the math manipulatives for two weeks as students will need them for the following week March 30-April 3 as well.
4. Pencils, crayons, glue sticks, scissors – Please keep these items as home and let me know if you need more of something!
5. Assignments – I have included a folder for any completed assignments. ALL graded assignments listed need to be handed in when you pick up the next weeks packet in this week’s packet.

I know I have probably forgotten something VERY important so please send me a message if you think I have! Please be forgiving as this is new to me as well. I am also thinking of you and in the same boat working from home, teaching my own children, and taking care of my youngest. Know that I am in this WITH YOU!

Thank you for being your child’s first teacher and helping each other along this path!

Mrs. Hoekman